

Appropriations Subcommittee

Transportation and HUD

Requesting Organization

Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority

Suite 6560 RCGC West

Saint Paul, MN 55102

Purpose of Request

Funding would support a study of transit options and environmental analysis of the corridor along Interstate 94 between the Union Depot in downtown St. Paul, MN and Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Interstate 94 is the principle east/west connection for the eastern Twin Cities metropolitan area and Western Wisconsin. The transportation corridor is heavily congested today and has dramatic growth projections in future years. Highway solutions include adding lanes to I-94 - an option so costly it isn't under discussion. In fact, no short, medium or long-term highway plans are under development. In Minnesota, Ramsey County and Washington County have entered into a joint-powers agreement to develop a transit corridor and are in discussions with local units of government in Western Wisconsin to form a partnership. The FTA has confirmed this project's eligibility under Alternatives Analysis.

Amount Requested

\$4,000,000